

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/575,137

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Nelson D. Hernandez

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 8-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 May 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/09/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The amendments made on the specifications filed on January 16, 2005 have been considered and are acceptable.

Response to Amendment

2. Examiner noticed the amendments made on the claims. Claims 6 and 7 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-5 and 8-15 are allowed.
4. Regarding claim 1, the primary reason for indication of allowable subject matter is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest the limitations of having the timer module including a LCD within said body, said LCD being connected to the control means and providing information about the time intervals, wherein said LCD is capable of displaying a plurality of icons indicative of a unit and a number of said units of said specific time interval and a proportion of said time interval elapsed until a next image capture time.

Maruichi, US Patent 5,469,211 discloses a timer module (Figs. 1: 10 and 2: 10) comprising: a body; control means (Fig. 1: S1, S2 and S3) within said body that automates the capture of multiple images by a camera module (Figs. 1: 1, 2: 1), the capture of each image being separated by specific time interval (Col. 3, lines 20-25); connection means (Fig. 1: 10a and 10b) incorporated in said body for connecting said timer module to connections (Fig. 1: 6, 7 for power and 16 for communication) providing

Art Unit: 2612

power and data between said timer module and said camera module (Col. 2, line 51 – col. 3, line 33). However, Maruichi does not teach the connection means for providing power and data between said timer module and said camera module as a bus and that said bus is further connectable to at least a printer module and that the timer module comprises a LCD within said body, said LCD being connected to the control means and providing information about the time intervals, wherein said LCD is capable of displaying a plurality of icons indicative of a unit and a number of said units of said specific time interval and a proportion of said time interval elapsed until a next image capture time.

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nelson D. Hernandez whose telephone number is (703) 305-8717, [(571) 272-7311 after February 28, 2005]. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M..

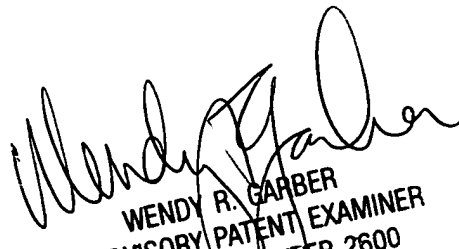
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy R. Garber can be reached on (703) 305-4929, [(571) 272-7308 after February 28, 2005]. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2612

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nelson D. Hernandez
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

NDHH
January 25, 2005


WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600